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2003
PATENT

ICCOMM1.012A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

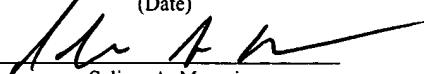
Applicants : Chad C. Smutney et al.
Appl. No. : 09/757,138
Filed : January 9, 2001
For : BLUNTABLE NEEDLE ASSEMBLY
WITH OPEN-ENDED BLUNTING
PROBE
Examiner : Roz Ghafoorian

Group Art Unit 3763

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
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June 16, 2003

(Date)


Salima A. Merani
Recognized under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to an Office Action mailed on January 14, 2003. With a two-month extension, this response is timely filed by June 16, 2003.

This paper is submitted in the format of the proposed revision to 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

06/23/2003 MAHMEED1 00000094 09757138
02 FC:1252 410.00 0P